

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/800,163

Examiner

Scott L. Jarrett

Applicant(s)

MITAL ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/21/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,8-14,18-20,22,23,28-39,42,44-48,50,51,53 and 59.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material


5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____


TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The present invention is directed to a graphical user interface for a business process workflow scheduling application (program) comprising a first screen area for creating a graphical representation of a business process workflow from a workflow component menu, a second screen area for binding the graphical representation of the business process workflow to one or more technological components, a bar separating the first/second screen areas wherein implementation ports are created on the separator bar in response to users binding the business process workflow components to technological components by dragging business process workflow components from the first to the second screen area, a dataflow screen that displays the data flow between the implementation port(s) and the technological component(s) and generating executable XML code from the business workflow process.

The closest prior art Ott, Marcus, Conceptual Design and Implementation of a Graphical Workflow-Modeling Editing in the Context of Distributed Groupware-Databases (1994), Okita et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,225,998, Action Technologies ActionWorkflow, TeamWARE Group's Teamware Flow and Visio, fail to teach or suggest either singularly or in combination a separator bar between a first and second screen area wherein an implementation port is created on the separator bar when a user binds a business workflow component from the first screen area to a technological

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component in the second screen area and the user connecting an action, with an associated role, to an implementation port on the separator bar via a role port wherein once an action is associated with the role the user is prevented from associating the same action to the role as recited in independent Claims 1, 22, 39, 53 and 59.

Applicant's arguments, see Paragraphs 2-3, Page 14, filed September 21, 2006, with respect to 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 1, 2, 5, 8-19 and 21 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Applicant's arguments, see Paragraph 1, Page 16, filed September 21, 2006, with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 22-31, 33-35 and 38 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Applicant's arguments, see Paragraph 1, Page 18, filed September 21, 2006, with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 53-55 and 58 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Applicant's arguments, see Paragraph 1, Page 20, filed September 21, 2006, with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 59, 61 and 62 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Applicant's arguments, see Paragraph 1, Page 22, filed September 21, 2006, with respect to the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 39-47 and 49 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott L. Jarrett whose telephone number is (571) 272-7033. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hafiz Tariq can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SJ'.

11/2/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TARIQ R. HAFIZ'.

TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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